



2-25-04

RCE/2645
2700 \$
#8
VT
3/9/04

Doc. No. 267005 WEMMH/SB/30 (4/03)

Approved for sue through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 335 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/050,284
Filing Date	January 16, 2002
First Named Inventor	John H. Thomas
Group Art Unit	2645
Examiner Name	Simon P. Sing
Attorney Docket Number	7320-223

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 CFR § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 CFR § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (August 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 15865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR § 1.114**a. ☐ Previously submitted**

- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR § 1.116 previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- ii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

RECEIVED

FEB 27 2004

Technology Center 2600

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 23-3030.
 - i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Charles P. Schmal	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45,082
Signature		Date	February 24, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (EL 983135419 US) under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Name (Print/Type)	Cheryl L. Kalugyer	Date	February 24, 2004
Signature			

Comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

02/27/2004 AWONDAF1 00000091 10050284

01 FC:1801

770.00 OP